

SWI - Skin and Wound Infections

SWI-C COMPLICATIONS

OUTCOME: The patient/family will understand the complications associated with skin and wound infections.

STANDARDS:

1. Review with the patient/family the symptoms of a generalized infection, e.g., high fever spreading redness, red streaking, increased tenderness, changes in mental status, decreased urine output.
2. Review with the patient/family the effects of uncontrolled skin or wound infections (e.g., cellulitis) or generalized infection, e.g., loss of limb, need for fasciotomy and skin grafting, multi-organ failure, death.
3. Inform patient/family that scarring and/or tissue discoloration may develop after healing of the wound.
4. Emphasis the importance of early treatment to prevent complications.

SWI-DP DISEASE PROCESS

OUTCOME: The patient/family will understand cause and risk factors associated with skin and wound infections.

STANDARDS:

1. Review the current information regarding the causes and risk factors of skin and wound infections.
2. Explain how breaks in the skin can allow bacteria to enter the body.
3. Discuss importance of daily hygiene and skin inspection.
4. Explain that minor wounds should be kept clean and treated early to prevent serious skin or wound infections.
5. Explain, as appropriate, that the use of immunosuppressive or corticosteroid medication may increase the risk for skin and wound infections.
6. Explain, as appropriate, that elevated blood sugar increases the risk of serious skin and wound infections and impedes healing.
7. Review, as appropriate, peripheral vascular disease and/or ischemic ulcers as appropriate. **Refer to PVD.**
8. Discuss with the patient/family the pathophysiologic process of an inflammatory response.

SWI-EQ EQUIPMENT

OUTCOME: The patient/family will have an understanding and demonstrate (when appropriate) the proper use and care of equipment.

STANDARDS:

1. Discuss the indications for and benefits of the prescribed medical equipment.
2. Discuss types and features of the medical equipment as appropriate.
3. Discuss and/or demonstrate proper use, care, and cleaning of medical equipment.
4. Participate in a return demonstration by the patient/family.
5. Discuss signs of equipment malfunction and proper action in case of malfunction as appropriate.
6. Discuss proper disposal of associated medical supplies.
7. For inpatients, explain that the various alarms are to alert the medical personnel of the patient's status and/or the function of the equipment.
8. Emphasize the importance of not tampering with any medical device.

SWI-FU FOLLOW-UP

OUTCOME: The patient/family will understand the importance of follow-up in the treatment of skin and wound infections.

STANDARDS:

1. Discuss the importance of follow-up care.
2. Discuss the procedure for obtaining follow-up appointments and that follow-up appointments should be kept.
3. Emphasize that full participation in the treatment plan is the responsibility of the patient/family.
4. Discuss signs/symptoms that should prompt immediate follow-up, e.g., redness, purulent discharge, fever, increased swelling or pain..
5. Discuss the availability of community resources and support services and refer as appropriate.

SWI-L LITERATURE

OUTCOME: The patient/family will receive literature about skin and wound infections.

STANDARDS:

1. Provide patient/family with literature on skin and wound infections.
2. Discuss the content of the literature.

SWI-M MEDICATIONS

OUTCOME: The patient/family will understand the purpose, proper use, and expected outcomes of prescribed drug therapy.

STANDARDS:

1. Describe the name, strength, purpose, dosing directions, and storage of the medication.
2. Discuss the risks, benefits, and common or important side effects of the medication and follow up as appropriate.
3. Discuss any significant drug/drug, drug/food, and alcohol interactions, as appropriate.
4. Discuss the importance of keeping a list of all current prescriptions and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, herbs, traditional remedies, and supplements. Encourage the patient to bring this list and pill bottles to appointments for medication reconciliation.

SWI-MNT MEDICAL NUTRITION THERAPY

OUTCOME: The patient and family will understand the specific nutritional intervention(s) needed for treatment or management of this condition, illness, or injury.

STANDARDS:

1. Explain that Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT) is a systematic nutrition care process provided by a Registered Dietitian (RD) that consists of the following:
 - a. Assessment of the nutrition related condition.
 - b. Identification of the patient's nutritional problem.
 - c. Identification of a specific nutrition intervention therapy plan.
 - d. Evaluation of the patient's nutritional care outcomes.
 - e. Reassessment as needed.
2. Review the basic nutrition recommendations for the treatment plan.
3. Discuss the benefits of nutrition and exercise to health and well-being.
4. Assist the patient/family in developing an appropriate nutrition care plan.

SWI-N NUTRITION

OUTCOME: The patient/family will understand the role of adequate nutrition for the healing of skin and wound infections.

STANDARDS:

1. Explain the importance of adequate nutrition and hydration in the repair of tissue.

2. Refer to a registered dietician as appropriate.

SWI-P PREVENTION

OUTCOME: The patient/family will understand the appropriate measures to prevent skin and wound infections.

STANDARDS:

1. Discuss avoidance of skin damage by wearing appropriate protective equipment (e.g., proper footwear, long sleeves, long pants, gloves), as appropriate.
2. Explain importance of good general hygiene and cleaning any breaks in the skin and observing for infections. **Refer to HPDP-HY.**
3. Review importance of maintaining good general health and controlling chronic medical conditions, especially glycemic control in diabetes. **Refer to DM-FTC.**

SWI-PM PAIN MANAGEMENT

OUTCOME: The patient/family will understand the plan for pain management.

STANDARDS:

1. Explain that pain management is specific to the disease process of this particular diagnosis and patient and may be multifaceted. **Refer to PM.**
2. Explain that short term use of narcotics may be helpful in pain management as appropriate.
3. Explain that other medications may be helpful to control the symptoms of pain.
4. Explain that administration of fluids may be helpful with pain relief and resolution of symptoms.
5. Discuss non-pharmacologic measures that may be helpful with pain control.

SWI-TE TESTS

OUTCOME: The patient/family will understand the test(s) to be performed, including indications and impact on further care.

STANDARDS:

1. Explain the test ordered and collection method.
2. Explain the necessity, benefits and risks of the test to be performed, as applicable, including possible complications that may result from not having the test performed.
3. Explain how the test relates to the course of treatment.
4. Explain any necessary preparation and instructions for the test.

5. Explain the meaning of the test results, as appropriate.

SWI-WC WOUND CARE

OUTCOME: The patient/family will understand the necessity and procedure for proper wound care and infection control measures. As appropriate they will demonstrate the necessary wound care techniques.

STANDARDS:

1. Explain the reasons to care appropriately for the wound, e.g., decreased infection rate, improved healing.
2. Explain the correct procedure for caring for this patient's wound.
3. Detail the supplies necessary for care of this wound (if any) and how/where they might be obtained.
4. Emphasize the proper methods for disposal of used supplies.
5. Emphasize the importance of follow-up.
6. Discuss any special recommendations or instructions particular to the patient's wound.